

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 3-13 and claim 15 are currently pending. The status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-2 are cancelled;

Claims 3-4 are currently amended;

Claims 5-7 are original;

Claims 8-9 are currently amended;

Claim 10 is original;

Claim 11 is currently amended;

Claims 12-13 are original;

Claim 14 is cancelled;

Claim 15 is original;

Claim 16 is cancelled;

Claims 17-21 are withdrawn.

II. Remarks

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the Examiner has allowed claim 15. Applicant also acknowledges that the Examiner has indicated that claims 3-13 have been objected to being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Also, Applicant acknowledges that claims 17-21 have been withdrawn.

Claims 3-4, 8-9, and 11 have been amended to incorporate all limitations of rejected base claim 1 and/or rejected base claim 2. Since claims 5-7, 10, and 12-13

depend from amended claims, all limitations of rejected base claim 1 and/or rejected base claim 2 are incorporated therein. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-13 are in condition for allowance.

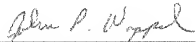
CONCLUSION

Having addressed all issues in the August 9, 2006 Office Action, and for the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of pending claims 3-13 and 15.

Please contact applicant's undersigned attorney if there are other issues which could assist in expediting prosecution of this application. No fees are believed due at this time, however, please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to deposit account 12-0913 with reference to our attorney docket number 920036-94963.

Respectfully submitted,

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